

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING GABRIEL GRIESS

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th Congressional District of Texas. The 2025 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Lieutenant Colonel Gabriel Griess, United States Air Force, of Grapevine, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Lieutenant Colonel Griess served with distinction in the United States Air Force from 1991 to 2015, holding command and leadership positions across the globe, including during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Over his 24-year career, he demonstrated exceptional skill, courage, and integrity in both combat and peacetime operations. His leadership ensured mission success and the safety of his personnel, and his mentorship inspired countless Airmen to excel in service. For his outstanding contributions, he received numerous decorations, including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters, and Air Force Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, among many others.

Following his military career, Lieutenant Colonel Griess has continued to exemplify service before self through his civic and volunteer leadership. He serves as Secretary of the Tarrant County College Foundation and as a member of the Fort Worth Air Power Council. He is active in numerous Grapevine community organizations, including the Grapevine Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Grapevine Building Board of Appeals. He has also served as a commissioner on the city's Planning and Zoning Commission, a PTA board member, youth coach, and advocate for civic engagement across Tarrant County.

Lieutenant Colonel Griess' exemplary record of military and civic service reflects the highest traditions of the United States Air Force and brings great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

HONORING MAYOR FREDDY PUZA

HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the new mayor of Culver City in my district, Freddy Puza.

First as a Councilmember and most recently as Vice Mayor, Freddy has relentlessly fought for a more inclusive, vibrant, and equitable

Culver City. His unwavering leadership and compassion are exactly what Culver City deserves in its next mayor.

His accession to Mayor represents visibility, dignity, and hope that extend far beyond the boundaries of my district. As the first openly gay Mayor in Culver City's 108-year history, he paves the way for future generations of LGBTQ+ youth to see themselves reflected in public service and civic life.

I look forward to working alongside Mayor Puza as we serve the Culver City community together in the year ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GREG CASAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. CASAR. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 12, H.R. 5184.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HILLARY J. SCHOLTEN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on January 12, 2026. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 15.

RECOGNIZING FELIX JIMENEZ GARCIA

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th Congressional District of Texas. The 2025 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Sergeant Felix Jimenez Garcia, United States Army, of Fort Worth, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Sergeant Garcia served in the United States Army and the Texas Army National Guard for thirteen years, including a twelve-month combat deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. As a squad leader with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 144th Infantry Regiment, he led and completed more than one hundred combat missions in Iraq demonstrating courage, composure, and devotion to his fellow soldiers. For his valor and leadership in combat, he was awarded the Army Commendation

Medal with "V" Device, along with the Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Expert Infantry Badge, and Combat Infantry Badge.

Following his military service, Sergeant Garcia has continued to exemplify service before self through his work in the North Texas community. He volunteers with Catholic Charities of Fort Worth, serves on the Board of Directors for the Greater Keller Chamber of Commerce, and dedicates his time to helping fellow veterans navigate the Department of Veterans Affairs benefits process. Recently certified as an Onward Ops Sponsor, he mentors transitioning service members as they adjust to civilian life offering guidance, encouragement, and support. A husband, father of four, and small business owner, Sergeant Garcia continues to live a life of purpose, leadership, and compassion, strengthening both the veteran community and his local neighborhood.

Sergeant Garcia's courage in combat and his lifelong commitment to serving others reflect the highest traditions of the United States Army and bring great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

CONGRATULATING THE GARDEN SPOT FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize the Garden Spot Future Farmers of America chapter (Garden Spot FFA), affiliated with Lampeter-Strasburg High School in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, on their success at the 98th National FFA Convention & Expo.

The Garden Spot FFA represented themselves well during the 98th National FFA Convention & Expo, which was held from October 24, 2025, to November 1, 2025, in Indianapolis, Indiana. At the Farm and Agribusiness Management event, which tested students on their economic and agricultural knowledge, the Garden Spot FFA Team placed second. Each student on the team—Antonio Franco, Will Gajecki, Rex Giberson, and Jack Ross—earned silver for their individual performance.

Five Garden Spot FFA alumni also received American FFA Degrees in 2025, the highest honor bestowed to FFA members, and were recognized at the convention. These individuals were Gracie Albright, Sydney Albright, Kayla Frey, Jaclyn Martin, and Katelyn Ranck.

With their success at the 98th National FFA Convention, the students at Garden Spot FFA demonstrated their remarkable work ethic and devotion to agriculture—making all of Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District proud. I congratulate the Garden Spot FFA on their accomplishments, and I wish them continued success.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

CONGRATULATING BISHOP MARIO AVILÉS ON HIS INSTALLATION

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Most Reverend Mario Alberto Avilés, C.O., on his appointment by Pope Leo XIV to serve as the ninth Bishop of Corpus Christi.

In his previous role as Auxiliary Bishop for the Diocese of Brownsville, he served our region and uplifted those in need through his faith and compassion.

His recent appointment is a testament to this leadership and the humility with which he serves. Bishop Avilés has consistently upheld the values of integrity and compassion that the Catholic church is proud to represent.

This calling comes at a time when our Nation is facing hardship, and our people are divided. I can think of no better servant of God to provide ministry to our community.

As South Texas continues to grow and navigate these complex challenges, Bishop Avilés' leadership has been essential in fostering hope, stability, and moral clarity for our community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful South Texas, I wish to congratulate Most Reverend Mario Avilés, C.O., for his appointment as Bishop of Corpus Christi. I also wish to thank him for his service to the Rio Grande Valley.

RECOGNIZING AMERICAN PATRIOT PENNY JUSTICE

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and congratulate Penny Justice on her selection as the winner of the Patriot of the Year Award. This annual award ceremony celebrates our great American servicemembers, first responders, and citizens, and recognizes men and women who, through their actions and words, exemplify servant leadership and patriotism.

Mrs. Justice has made exceptional contributions in support of service members, veterans and their families in Northeast Florida, and has demonstrated extraordinary patriotism and dedication to our Nation's ideals.

On this historic occasion, I congratulate and recognize Penny Justice. I thank her for her dedication and leadership. May God bless her and congratulations to her.

RECOGNIZING MS. MARTHA ELIAS

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Martha Elias for her well-earned retirement from Nueva High School and for her decades of dedicated service to the Lamont community. Shortly after completing her

education in Mexico, Ms. Elias immigrated to the United States and began her professional career as a bilingual secretary at a printing company. Determined to further her education, she attended Brigham Young University in Utah, where she earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish Teaching and Latin American Studies. In 1991, Ms. Elias continued her commitment to education by earning a teaching credential in Bakersfield, going on to serve students at both Arvin High School and Highland High School. Since 2010, Ms. Elias has been a trusted counselor and dedicated English Language Development Coordinator at Nueva High School.

Through her compassion, professionalism, and deep cultural roots, she built meaningful relationships with students and families alike. She made it her mission to ensure every student felt supported, confident, and prepared with the skills needed to succeed beyond graduation. Ms. Elias' impact extends far beyond the classroom. She has been a mentor to colleagues, a trusted partner to parents, and a pillar of the greater Kern County community. As the Master of Ceremonies for academic award assemblies, she brought families together to celebrate student achievement, often receiving heartfelt thanks from parents whose children's lives she helped shape. Under her leadership and guidance, Nueva High School achieved significant milestones, including the highest graduation rate in alternative education, increased scholarship attainment, and record participation in ROTC programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ms. Martha Elias for her extraordinary career, her lasting impact on generations of students, and her unwavering dedication to the Lamont community. Her service exemplifies the difference one committed educator can make, and she leaves behind a legacy that will be felt for years to come.

HONORING EULESS JAIL SUPERVISOR ALISHA JOHNSON

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of Jail Supervisor Alisha Johnson of the Euleless Police Department, who is retiring after twenty-five years of dedicated service.

Alisha joined the City of Euleless in November 1999 as a Public Service Officer, after previously serving as a Correctional Officer with Correctional Service Corporation in Fort Worth. Through her commitment to public service, she was promoted to Jail Supervisor in October 2023. She is an expert in the Live Scan fingerprinting system and has completed new supervisor school and other job-related training courses.

Alisha graduated from Kofa High School in Yuma, Arizona, pursued accounting and business at Arizona Western University, and earned an Associate Degree in General Studies from Tarrant County College. She is a member of the Euleless Peace Officers Association and has received numerous awards, including the Blackie Sustaire Award, Employee

of the Month in 2006, Civilian of the Year in 2013, the Distinguished Service Civilian Award in 2020, and a Unit Citation in 2022.

She enjoys traveling, reading, outdoor activities, and spending time with her family.

I would like to thank Jail Supervisor Johnson for her exemplary service to the Euleless community and congratulate her on her well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 334.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I was in discussion with another Member on the floor. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 8, H.R. 504.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF COUNCILWOMAN DOROTHY "MS. DOT" GLENN NICHOLS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the extraordinary life, service, and legacy of Councilwoman Dorothy "Ms. Dot" Glenn Nichols, a devoted public servant, community leader, educator, and compassionate advocate for the people of Greenwood, Leflore County, and the State of Mississippi.

Councilwoman Glenn Nichols was born on October 16, 1957, in Leflore County, Mississippi. From an early age she demonstrated a steadfast commitment to faith, service, and education. She was a lifelong member of New Foundation Missionary Baptist Church in Greenwood, Mississippi, where she faithfully served in numerous leadership roles and lived out her Christian values through service to others.

A proud graduate of Greenwood High School, Class of 1976, Councilwoman Glenn Nichols pursued higher education with purpose and determination. She earned an Associate of Arts Degree in Education from Mary Holmes Junior College and later a Bachelor of Science Degree in Early Childhood Development, with a minor in Business Administration, from Tougaloo College. Her educational foundation became the cornerstone of a distinguished career devoted to improving the lives of children and families.

For decades, Ms. Glenn Nichols served in the Head Start and Early Start programs at the local, state, and national levels. Beginning

as a classroom teacher, she rose through the ranks to serve as a case worker, child and family advocate, program lead, and ultimately a Head Start Technical Assistance Program Improvement Coach. Her expertise supported educators, administrators, and agencies throughout Mississippi and the broader region. Her work gained national recognition, leading to her appointment as a National Advisor and Professional Development Specialist with the Council for Professional Recognition, where she helped shape the future of early childhood education across Mississippi, Arkansas, and Alabama.

Beyond her professional achievements, Councilwoman Glenn Nichols was a devoted entrepreneur and community builder. As the owner and operator of Dot's Corner Market on historic Broad Street in Greenwood, she transformed a neighborhood store into a center of care, connection, and compassion. Known affectionately as "The Mother of Broad Street," she provided not only goods, but guidance, encouragement, and refuge for countless individuals. Her store became a symbol of trust, unity, and resilience within the community.

Councilwoman Glenn Nichols also answered the call to public service. She represented the citizens of Greenwood with integrity and dedication as a member of the Greenwood City Council. In 2021, she assumed the role of Councilwoman for District 6 and was re-elected in 2025, serving faithfully until her passing. Her leadership was rooted in advocacy, fairness, and an unwavering commitment to uplifting her constituents. She was a lifelong member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated, the NAACP Leflore County Chapter, and the Greenwood Voters League—organizations that reflect her dedication to civic engagement, social justice, and community empowerment.

On Friday, January 2, 2026, Councilwoman Dorothy "Ms. Dot" Glenn Nichols departed this life, leaving behind a legacy defined by faith, service, leadership, and love. Her impact is evident in the lives of the children she educated, the families she supported, the community she strengthened, and the city she served.

Mr. Speaker, Councilwoman Glenn Nichols exemplified what it means to live a life of purpose. Her compassion, perseverance, and commitment to others stand as an enduring example of public service at its finest. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her life and legacy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I missed three votes on January 12, 2026. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 15, final passage of H.R. 6504, Haiti Economic Lift Program Extension Act; YEA on Roll Call No. 14, final passage of H.R. 6500, AGOA Extension Act; and YEA on Roll Call No. 13, final passage of H.R. 2683, Remote Access Security Act.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT HAZLEWOOD

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th Congressional District of Texas. The 2025 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to First Sergeant Robert Hazlewood, United States Marine Corps, of North Richland Hills, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

First Sergeant Hazlewood served with distinction in the United States Marine Corps for thirty years, including during the Vietnam War and Operation Desert Storm. Throughout his career, he held numerous leadership roles across the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, and 14th Marine Regiment earning the respect of those he led through his steadfast commitment to the Marine Corps values of honor, courage, and commitment. His military decorations include the National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, three Good Conduct Medals, three Selected Marine Corps Reserve Medals, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and the Overseas Service Ribbon.

Following his retirement, First Sergeant Hazlewood has continued to serve his community with the same dedication that marked his military career. A lifelong mentor and educator, he operates a martial arts school where he teaches self-defense and discipline to young men and women, providing specialized training for college-bound students to enhance their personal safety. He also serves his church, Compass Church in Colleyville, by leading and training its volunteer security team, and has been twice recognized by the City of Colleyville for more than twenty years of service to local youth.

First Sergeant Hazlewood's contributions have also been recognized nationally and internationally. He has been honored by the Governor of Tennessee for his work with the Junior Achievement Program, received Rotary International's Paul Harris Fellow recognition for promoting global understanding, and earned the Jandal Service Award for his support of high school speech and debate students. He continues to mentor youth through Rotary Interact, the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program, and by coaching students toward successful appointments to the United States Air Force and Naval Academies.

First Sergeant Hazlewood's distinguished record of service to his Nation and his tireless commitment to the next generation reflect the highest traditions of the United States Marine Corps and bring great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING BERNIE PRAZENICA'S RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER OF WPVI-TV

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bernie Prazenica on his retirement as President and General Manager of WPVI-TV, Philadelphia's most-watched local news and entertainment television station.

A graduate of Temple University, Prazenica's illustrious 43-year career in television saw stops in Pittsburgh, Richmond, and Raleigh before he returned to Philadelphia in 1994. He would go on to serve as the President and General Manager of WPVI beginning in 2007, making him the longest-serving General Manager in the station's history.

Throughout the entirety of his tenure, Prazenica played a critical role in maintaining WPVI's status as the home of the most-watched local news broadcast in Philadelphia, Action News, a title which the station and program have held for nearly 50 years. In 2009, he oversaw the construction of a state-of-the-art, 110,000 square foot digital broadcasting facility next to the station's previous home. His unwavering commitment to his work has ensured that throughout his tenure, the station has remained at the forefront of producing groundbreaking news, brought into countless homes across the Delaware Valley every single day.

Prazenica is also an active participant in Philadelphia's business, cultural and philanthropic communities. He has actively served on many boards, including those of the Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters, the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Corporate Council. He has previously chaired the Police Athletic League and Temple University's Klein College Board of Advisors. In 2009, Prazenica was recognized by Philadelphia Magazine as one of the City's 75 Most Influential People and, in 2024, he was inducted into the Broadcast Pioneers of Philadelphia Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, it is altogether fitting that the House recognizes Bernie Prazenica for his exceptional career and congratulates him on his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF WILLIAM J. "BILL" MARTIN

HON. JENNIFER L. MCCLELLAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of William J. "Bill" Martin, a cherished leader, historian, and steward of Richmond's history, who passed away on December 28, 2025, at the age of 71. Bill Martin served with distinction for over three decades as the Director of The Valentine Museum in Richmond, Virginia, dedicating his life to preserving and interpreting the rich and complex narratives of our community.

Born and raised in Culpeper County, Virginia, Bill's passion for history and community storytelling grew into a remarkable career that transformed The Valentine into a dynamic, vibrant center of learning and civic engagement. During his 32 years of leadership, Bill guided the museum through financial crises, expanded its collections and programs, and fostered inclusive conversations about Richmond's past and its impact on the present and future. His stewardship helped ensure that The Valentine became not just a collection of artifacts, but a forum where history could be studied and shared by all.

Bill's commitment to truth and community extended beyond The Valentine's walls. He embraced challenging and sometimes uncomfortable discourse about slavery, the legacy of the Confederacy and Jim Crow, and how Richmond's history is told. His efforts strengthened civic understanding, bridged diverse perspectives, and inspired countless residents and visitors to reflect deeply on our shared past.

Bill Martin was widely recognized for his contributions to Richmond's cultural life. In 2024, he was named "Richmonder of the Year" by Style Weekly, as a testament to his influence and the profound respect he earned across the Richmond community.

Bill was not just a constituent; he was a true friend, one whose passion and joy for his work and community were infectious. While his legacy will live on in the stories he brought to light, he will be dearly missed. These words reflect not only Bill's professional excellence but also his personal warmth, his ability to bring people together, and his unwavering belief in the power of history to guide us toward a more just and informed future.

Today, we mourn the loss of a visionary leader, a devoted colleague, and a dear friend to so many in the Richmond region and beyond. Bill's legacy will endure in the countless lives he touched, in the stories he preserved, and in future generations of learners and leaders he inspired.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET "BB"
BELL HOUSTON

HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the extraordinary life of a beloved Angeleno who passed away at the age of 96, the late Margaret "BB" Bell Houston.

For more than four decades, she served as a private nurse. Her unwavering commitment to caring for others touched countless patients and leaves behind a legacy of compassion that will live on for generations to come.

Those who knew her best will remember a passionate animal lover with an eye for fashion, a joy for jazz and dancing, and a fondness for sunflowers. I like to imagine her now dancing to jazz in a garden of sunflowers in heaven, reunited with her husband and parents.

Margaret was generous beyond measure to her family and friends alike. Her loss will be profoundly felt by her son Cedric, grand-

children, and great-grandchildren. She will be deeply missed.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL
MICHAEL W. KNAPP FOR HIS
SERVICE TO THE UNITED
STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
TIVES

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding officer and strategic leader in our United States Air Force.

Lieutenant Colonel Michael W. Knapp distinguished himself through exceptional professional character and dedication by serving this Nation in uniform. For the past two years, Lieutenant Colonel Knapp served admirably as the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs for U.S. Transportation Command. In this role, he was the principal liaison for Members of Congress and the Commander of the U.S. Transportation Command. Here, he fostered positive relationships between the Congress and the command and conveyed information critical to Congressional oversight, policy development, and appropriations.

Lieutenant Colonel Knapp graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy and serves as a senior pilot with over three thousand one hundred flight hours as a combat pilot for the C-17A Globemaster III and as a Vice Presidential pilot on C-32A aircraft. Prior to his assignment at U.S. Transportation Command, he served as Defense Legislative Fellow to Senator Tammy Duckworth, where he advised on defense, foreign relations, and veterans' affairs legislation.

As Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs for U.S. Transportation Command, Lieutenant Colonel Knapp scheduled eighty-three office calls between the Commander and Members of Congress. These meetings addressed contested logistics and readiness concerns and fortified posture testimony during Senate and House Armed Services Committee hearings. He also organized the Deputy Commander's annual Hill engagements, educating nearly one hundred staffers on the Mobility Capabilities Study, directly influencing critical report language for aeromedical evacuation requirements. Finally, he developed the command's appropriations engagement strategy thereby protecting \$2.8 million dollars for Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation funds for maritime logistics platforms.

Of particular note for my district, Lieutenant Colonel Knapp led a four-day congressional staff delegation to California showcasing Ready Reserve Force vessels and joint mobility assets throughout the district, thus bolstering support for maritime equities, surface transportation needs, and air mobility requirements that align perfectly with the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee's priorities. This engagement provided Congress critical insights and directly influenced the debate for recapitalizing the Ready Reserve Force in the Fiscal Year 2025 National Defense Authorization Act.

Mr. Speaker, next month Lieutenant Colonel Knapp will assume duties in my district at

Travis Air Force Base, California, as the Director of Operations of the 821st Contingency Response Squadron, where he will once again lead Airmen on the tactical and operational levels. It has been a great pleasure to work with Lieutenant Colonel Knapp during his time representing U.S. Transportation Commands on Capitol Hill. His dedication to the Nation's maritime and air mobility infrastructure, combined with his deep understanding of strategic mobility challenges, made him an invaluable partner in advancing our national defense transportation priorities. On behalf of our grateful Nation, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service and sacrifice of Lieutenant Colonel Knapp and his family for the past sixteen years. I wish them the very best as they continue their journey in our U.S. Air Force, and I look forward to welcoming them to California's 8th Congressional District.

Together, we deliver.

RECOGNIZING MARK SMITS

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th Congressional District of Texas. The 2025 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Captain Mark Smits, United States Army, of Coppell, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Captain Smits was commissioned into the United States Army in 1979 and served as an engineer officer until 1983. During his military career, he demonstrated strong leadership and technical skill earning the Parachutist Badge, Humanitarian Service Medal, and Army Service Ribbon. His dedication to excellence and teamwork exemplified the values of duty, integrity, and service to others that define the United States Army.

Following his military service, Captain Smits has continued a lifelong commitment to empowering others and supporting those who serve. As a Board Member and Mentor for Claymore Operations, he helps active-duty service members prepare for the transition to civilian life by providing personalized mentorship, career guidance, and leadership development. He also serves as Commander of the Military Order of the World Wars Dallas Chapter, where he promotes patriotism, civic responsibility, and leadership among veterans and students alike.

As Chairman of the Dallas MOWW's Youth Leadership initiatives, Captain Smits leads programs that bring together JROTC cadets and high school students from across Texas to build leadership skills and foster a deeper appreciation for service and citizenship. His tireless work ensures that both current and future generations understand the value of duty, honor, and commitment to country.

Captain Smits' service to his Nation and community is in keeping with the finest traditions of the United States Army and reflects great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

HONORING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY
OF RICHARD LYNCH

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th birthday of Richard Lynch in White Township, New Jersey.

Richard J. Lynch, a Warren County native and World War II U.S. Navy veteran, was honored this week. He celebrated his 100th birthday on January 7, 2026, while surrounded by family, friends, and fellow veterans.

Lynch further received a quilt from the Quilts of Valor Foundation and a Distinguished Military Service Medal from the Warren County War Memorial Corporation for his service to our Nation.

A Navy veteran of World War II, Lynch served as a signalman third class aboard the USS *LST 1109*. After his military service, he worked as a printer and volunteered as a Sunday school teacher in his local community. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring this hero. There is no greater responsibility, nor debt of gratitude, than that which our Nation owes to its veterans.

HONORING BARRY DEL BUONO'S
LIFETIME OF IMPACT

HON. SAM T. LICCARDO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. LICCARDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with my colleague, Congresswoman ZOE LOFGREN, to recognize the life and contributions of Barry Del Buono, a champion for the unhoused and a longtime community leader in San José, California, who passed away on December 26, 2025. Mr. Del Buono dedicated his life to building a more compassionate and equitable society, working tirelessly to ensure that every person, regardless of circumstance, had access to shelter, dignity, and a second chance. From the time I first met Barry as a child, I considered Barry as a hero for the way he transformed his quiet strength and potent faith to launch and lead organizations to which thousands of our most vulnerable neighbors owe their survival.

Barry began his life of public service as a Catholic priest in San José, where he co-founded the Loaves and Fishes Family Kitchen to serve meals to the hungry—an organization that continues to serve our community to this day. Even after leaving the priesthood, he never left the mission. Instead, he expanded it. In the early 1980s, Barry became the first employee, and soon the executive director, of the Emergency Housing Consortium, later known as EHC LifeBuilder, and now HomeFirst. He built EHC into a dependable organization for Santa Clara County residents. He developed what was then a groundbreaking “continuum of care” model that extended beyond emergency shelter to transitional and permanent supportive housing. From San José to Gilroy, Barry launched programs that offered not just temporary relief, but a genuine pathway toward stability and recovery.

Barry brought remarkable creativity to this work. He recognized the potential in empty farmworker cottages during the off-season and turned them into a winter family shelter.

He helped run the cold-weather shelter at the National Guard Armory in Gilroy for nearly two decades. He secured public funding by mastering the machinery of government grants, writing proposals late into the night while running services by day. Through both lean years and economic booms, Barry made sure that EHC remained a lifeline for thousands of families and individuals.

Though widely respected for his strategic mind and fundraising skill, Barry was most admired for his relentless conviction that homelessness could be solved. He built programs and mentored a generation of nonprofit leaders who now carry on the work he started. Barry was as fierce in his advocacy as he was generous in spirit.

After stepping down from EHC in 2007, Barry continued to serve his community. He became a sociology instructor at San José City College, sharing decades of hard-earned wisdom with his students. He launched an educational nonprofit with his wife, Dr. Maile Del Buono, to help underserved workers and students access opportunities.

San José's City Council appointed Barry to San José's Housing and Community Development Commission, lending his voice and experience to policymaking until the final year of his life. Throughout his multi-act career, he maintained a deep commitment to his family of five children and seven grandchildren, and to Maile. With her by his side, they battled cancer courageously for several years—both hers, and his own—until he succumbed at age 74. Throughout his battle, he demonstrated the same quiet strength and powerful faith that made him a great community champion. We will remember Barry Del Buono not only for what he built, but for what he believed—that no one is beyond help, and that it is our shared responsibility to lift each other up. I extend my deepest condolences to his family and friends, joined by the grateful many he touched throughout his extraordinary life. May he rest in peace and achieve his hero's welcome in heaven.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARTIN
OLONDRIZ TUASON

HON. DARRELL ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in both tribute and sorrow for the life and loss of an outstanding man, an extraordinary innovator, and a great friend. We lost Martin Olondriz Tuason late last year, and the news is as difficult to fathom today as it was then and every day since.

He was larger than life and a person of boundless energy, but those who had the privilege to spend time with him out of the spotlight saw the rest of Martin: his warm smile, compassionate heart, unwavering kindness, and indefatigable spirit.

He commanded the heights of his business and was a trusted advisor to government leaders around the world, yet he was available, accessible, and the easiest man to talk to. As

consuming as his career was—as President and CEO of Armscor/Rock Island Armory—he made everyone else his priority. Martin was a singular force but also a loyal teammate, an enterprise leader but also an industrywide advocate, a decisive decision-maker but also a patient consensus builder.

He had an unwavering belief in doing things the right way, and he kept faith with more than a century of his family's history and legacy by protecting the values of his father and grandfather: respect, integrity, craftsmanship, and service. These are the hallmarks that made his company the largest privately owned firearms and ammunition manufacturing company in Southeast Asia with exports to more than 60 countries, including the United States and Australia, as well as nations in Europe, South America, and Southeast Asia.

But Martin's most proud role—as he would unhesitatingly tell everyone—was not in the C-suite, but as a loving husband to Tammy and a fiercely devoted father to Nate, Olivia, James—and as so many have shared—a father figure to many more. Outside of his family he left an indelible mark on every life that he touched—and for one man, he managed to touch so many lives around the world.

Those who knew Martin best have shared what was best about him: he carried his charge willingly, graciously, and without complaining—out of duty and love in his big heart. He truly cared for others. He was smart, fearless, gentle, and kind.

There is a void to fill in our world, and that is the challenge for the friends of Martin Tuason: those of us who knew him, who admired him, and who will always miss him.

HONORING THE CAREER OF HAMPTON
ROADS NATIVE COACH MIKE
TOMLIN OF THE PITTSBURGH
STEELERS

HON. ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincere appreciation to Coach Mike Tomlin for his extraordinary career and lasting impact on the game of football. His resignation marks the end of an era not only for the Pittsburgh Steelers, but for the entire National Football League.

Coach Tomlin has been a model of leadership, consistency, and excellence. As one of the longest-tenured and most successful head coaches in the league, he demonstrated what it means to lead with integrity, resilience, and a commitment to both performance and people. His historic achievements—including never having a losing season—speak volumes about his discipline, preparation, and ability to bring out the best in those around him.

For those of us in Hampton Roads, Coach Tomlin's story is especially meaningful. A proud graduate of Denbigh High School in Newport News and a standout student-athlete at the College of William & Mary, he represents the very best of our region. His journey from our local schools to the pinnacle of professional football is a testament to the power of hard work, perseverance, and community support.

Beyond the wins and championships, Coach Tomlin's legacy is also defined by the doors

he helped open. As one of the few Black head coaches in the NFL, he has been an inspiration to countless young people who now see what is possible when talent meets opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Coach Tomlin and his family the very best in this next chapter. His influence will continue to be felt for years to come—on the field, in locker rooms, and in the lives of the many players, coaches, and fans he inspired.

RECOGNIZING LARRY KELLOGG

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th Congressional District of Texas. The 2025 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Sergeant Larry Kellogg, United States Army, of Coppell, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Sergeant Kellogg was drafted into the United States Army in 1966 and served with Company C, 65th Engineer Battalion, 25th Infantry Division, as a combat medic during the Vietnam War. In February 1967, at age twenty-four, he deployed to Vietnam, where his courage and devotion to duty saved lives on the battlefield. In July of that year, while on patrol, his armored personnel carrier was struck by a rocket-propelled grenade. Despite his own severe injuries, Sergeant Kellogg immediately began tending to three wounded squad members, continuing to render aid until he lost consciousness from blood loss. His selfless actions saved the lives of those men and earned him the Bronze Star Medal for Valor and the Purple Heart for wounds received in action. His additional decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Marksman Badge (Rifle M14), Meritorious Unit Commendation, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation with Palm, and the Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal Unit Citation.

Following his military service, Sergeant Kellogg has remained steadfast in his commitment to veterans and his community. He served as a Director and honor guard member with Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 920 in Denton for more than fifteen years, volunteered with the Coppell Police Department's Citizen Patrol, and continues to serve as a Eucharistic Minister at Mary Immaculate Catholic Church, bringing the Eucharist to the homebound. He is also an active member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, representing his chapter at civic events and community ceremonies honoring America's veterans.

Sergeant Kellogg's lifelong devotion to service both in uniform and in the community reflects the highest traditions of the United States Army and brings great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF BETTY REID SOSKIN

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of Betty Reid Soskin, a trailblazer, public servant, and living witness to American history who used her 104 years of her life to the fullest.

Born in 1921, lived in the East Bay since 1927, when her family moved from New Orleans. She lived a life defined by courage, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to truth and justice. She experienced firsthand the hardships of segregation, the challenges of wartime America, and the long struggle for civil rights, yet she transformed those experiences into a lifetime of public service and education.

As a young woman during World War II, Betty worked as a shipyard clerk for an all-Black auxiliary lodge of the segregated Boilermaker's union. In 1945 she and her husband founded one of the first Black-owned music stores, which remained open until 2019.

Ms. Soskin made history as the oldest active National Park Service ranger, serving at the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, California. Through her work, she ensured that the stories of women, people of color, and working families who are often omitted from traditional historical narratives were finally heard and preserved. Her storytelling gave voice to generations whose contributions shaped our Nation but were too often overlooked.

Beyond her federal service, Betty Reid Soskin has worked as staff to a Berkeley city council member, a state Assemblywoman, and a California State Senator. As well as a respected civil rights activist, author, educator, and community leader. Her life reminded us that history is not only something we study it is something we live, challenge, and improve.

Even after surviving serious injury late in life, Ms. Soskin continued to inspire with her determination, grace, and clarity of purpose. She taught us that patriotism includes honesty, that progress requires persistence, and that every generation has a responsibility to expand opportunity and justice.

Betty Reid Soskin leaves behind an enduring legacy of service, truth-telling, and hope. Her life stands as a testament to the power of perseverance and the importance of ensuring that America's full story is told. I extend my deepest condolences to her family, loved ones, and all those whose lives were touched by her remarkable spirit. Her impact will be felt for generations, and I know the people of Contra Costa County, and our Nation will join me in celebrating her life and legacy. May we honor her memory by continuing the work she so passionately advanced and by striving, as she did, to build a more just and inclusive Nation.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF PLACENTIA

HON. DEREK TRAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. TRAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a truly momentous milestone as the City of Placentia celebrates its 100th Anniversary. For a century, Placentia has stood as a vibrant and resilient community in Orange County, enriched by its history, strengthened by its diversity, and united by a shared commitment to progress.

Founded in 1926, Placentia grew from its agricultural roots into a thriving suburban city while preserving the values that have long defined it: hard work, civic pride, and a deep sense of community. From its early citrus groves to the dynamic neighborhoods, schools, and businesses that define the city today, Placentia's story is one of thoughtful growth and enduring opportunity.

Over the past 100 years, generations of residents, civic leaders, educators, public servants, and business owners have contributed to Placentia's success. Their dedication has fostered a city known for strong public institutions, safe neighborhoods, and a commitment to education, innovation, and community engagement. Placentia's ability to adapt while honoring its past reflects the very best of the American spirit.

As Placentia marks its centennial, we also look forward to the next generation of leaders, families, and entrepreneurs who will continue shaping the city's future. With ongoing investments in infrastructure, public safety, education, and economic development, Placentia is well-positioned to thrive for the next hundred years and beyond.

On this historic occasion, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the residents of Placentia and express my deepest appreciation to all who have contributed to the city's growth and success. It is an honor to represent this remarkable community in Congress, and I am proud to recognize the City of Placentia's 100 years of history, service, and achievement.

HONORING BEN AND ALISON SKLARCZYK

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate Ben and Alison Sklarczyk for receiving the Michigan Chapter of The Nature Conservancy's Conservation Innovation Award, which will be presented at the Great Lakes Crop Summit on January 28, 2026.

Ben and Alison Sklarczyk are third-generation farmers who operate Sklarczyk Seed Farm in Otsego County, where innovation and sustainability are at the heart of their work. Their family-owned operation encompasses approximately 2,000 acres of barley, oats, wheat, corn, and soybeans, along with 50,000 square feet of advanced greenhouse space, making them leaders in Michigan's agricultural community.

The Sklarczyks' commitment to conservation is reflected in their use of cover crops, reduced-till practices, and high-efficiency greenhouses, all of which protect soil health and conserve resources. Within their greenhouses, they produce more than nine million disease-free seed potatoes each year, spanning over one hundred varieties. As well as using clean growing environments that reduce the need for pesticides while promoting soil conservation.

Beyond their success in potato production, Ben and Alison continue to look toward the future by exploring new and emerging crops, including making barley, which exceeds current quality standards. By combining scientific research with practical, hands-on experience, they are helping build a more diverse, sustainable, and competitive agricultural economy for Michigan and all of the Great Lakes region.

Mr. Speaker, let us all join in congratulating Ben and Alison Sklarczyk on receiving the Conservation Innovation Award and to thank them for their dedication to Michigan agriculture, environmental stewardship, and the future of our Nation's food system.

RECOGNIZING DON MUNSON

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th Congressional District of Texas. The 2025 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Lieutenant Colonel Don Munson, United States Army, of Coppell, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Lieutenant Colonel Munson was commissioned as an officer upon graduating from Tulane University in 1960 as a Distinguished Military Graduate. Over the course of a 23-year Army career, he served in numerous leadership roles, including with the 82nd Airborne Division, Special Forces, and the 1st Cavalry Division. During the Vietnam War, he commanded C Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry, and later served as Operations Officer for the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry. For his extraordinary gallantry, he earned the Silver Star for capturing three enemy combatants under fire and the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism in extracting stranded soldiers under intense enemy attack. Throughout his command, he was deeply respected for his courage, integrity, and care for those under his leadership—never losing a single soldier in combat.

Lieutenant Colonel Munson's decorations also include two Bronze Stars for Valor, eleven Air Medals, five Meritorious Service Medals, and the Purple Heart, as well as the Master Combat Infantryman Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, and Pathfinder Badge.

His dedication to service did not end with his military career. A longtime member and former commander of the Military Order of World Wars, he authored and published the Dallas Chapter's monthly newsletter for twenty years. As a result of his hard work and leadership, the Dallas Chapter was named "Chapter of the Year" for 15 of its first 19 years. He also served as Chairman of the Dallas Vet-

erans Day Parade, helping elevate the event to one of national prominence. For nearly two decades he directed the Texas A&M Youth Leadership Conference, an initiative he founded to teach principles of patriotism, leadership, and service to the next generation.

Lieutenant Colonel Munson's service is consistent with the finest traditions of the United States Army and reflects great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

COMMENDING THE TAIWANESE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF GREATER CHICAGO

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Taiwanese American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Chicago (TACCGC) for its longstanding contributions to economic development, entrepreneurship, and civic engagement in the Greater Chicago region.

Founded in 1988, TACCGC has served as a vital forum for professionals and business leaders from a wide range of industries, fostering collaboration, supporting business growth, and strengthening the local economy.

Beyond its work in business development, TACCGC actively promotes Taiwanese American interests, strengthens economic ties between the United States and Taiwan, and encourages participation in American civic life. Its commitment to community involvement and international cooperation reflects the values that drive lasting prosperity.

I want to thank President Lisa Su and the other leaders for their leadership and service, and I am proud to recognize the organization's continued positive impact.

RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF U.S.-PHILIPPINE RELATIONS

HON. JAMES C. MOYLAN

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 80th anniversary of U.S.-Philippine relations.

In 1946, the Nation of the Philippines gained its independence and officially opened diplomatic relations with the United States. Since then, the U.S.-Philippine Alliance has evolved to become one of our most critical Pacific partnerships.

The United States and the Philippines share deep historical and cultural ties. During the Second World War, Filipinos fought alongside American service members in a battle for freedom against the imperial Japanese military from the battlefields of Luzon to the shores of Leyte Gulf.

Our shared sacrifice in defense of the Philippines led to one of our Nation's longest standing defense treaties in Asia, The Philippine Mutual Defense Treaty, signed August 1951. The foundational agreement set up the

cornerstone for the U.S.-Philippine Alliance, ensuring an attack on one is an attack on both.

Since 1951, our security cooperation has evolved and strengthened. In 2014, our two countries signed an Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement, increasing the U.S. military's rotational presence to tackle new challenges in the West Philippine Sea.

Our ties to the Philippines are more than just defensive, they are connected deeply by bonds of friendship and culture. More than 4 million people throughout the United States identify as Filipino. They serve in our armed forces, contribute to our healthcare system, and own and operate thousands of small businesses that support our economy.

As we launch this 80th anniversary year, let us reaffirm our commitments to our shared democratic values, a free and open Indo-Pacific, and renewed prosperity for the peoples of the United States and the Philippines.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND GREGORY M. GOETHALS

HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of the late Reverend Gregory M. Goethals.

Reverend Gregory was an extraordinary leader within the Loyola High School community for 19 years, and his teachings will continue to resonate in the lives of the students he touched.

Since 1988, he dedicated his life to helping others experience God's unconditional love as deeply as he did. Beyond his service, Reverend Gregory cherished the arts and was no stranger to the stage—where his quick wit and warm humor brought joy to so many.

His passing is a tremendous loss for his family, his fellow Jesuits, and the entire Loyola community. May he rest in peace with the angels and saints in the everlasting presence of God.

RECOGNIZING DAVID LOCKWOOD

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th Congressional District of Texas. The 2025 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Lieutenant David Richard Lockwood, United States Navy, of Grapevine, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Lieutenant Lockwood began his military career in the Army National Guard in 2015 and later commissioned as a Chaplain in the United States Navy in 2021. Throughout his service, he has ministered to Sailors, Marines, and their families with compassion, courage, and excellence serving in Japan, Everett, and Bahrain. As Command Chaplain for Expeditionary Medical Facility Jacksonville, he created a training platform later adopted by the

Bureau of Navy Medicine to train more than 1,500 sailors worldwide. From 2023 to 2025, he served as Chaplain Program Officer for Navy Recruiting Command, leading a ten-person team across four states, mentoring nearly one thousand personnel, and facilitating the recruitment of ninety-two new Navy Chaplains from diverse faith backgrounds. His dedication to service and leadership is reflected in his numerous awards, including two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, four Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, the

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, and the President's Lifetime Achievement Award for Volunteer Service.

Lieutenant Lockwood's service extends far beyond his military duties. Through his non-profit work, he has supported and trained dozens of humanitarian and faith-based organizations across Latin America, strengthening leadership and outreach in Spanish-speaking communities. He has also served as a pastor, counselor, and seminary professor mentoring future faith and nonprofit leaders in Texas and

abroad. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he provided critical pastoral care to patients and medical staff at Baylor Scott & White Medical Center, offering hope and resilience in an unprecedented time of crisis.

Lieutenant Lockwood's unwavering devotion to others has brought healing, guidance, and inspiration to countless individuals and reflects the highest traditions of the United States Navy, bringing great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.